



The Ocean and Coastal Economy: A Summary of Statistics

For more information, please contact linwood.pendleton@noaa.gov, see page 3 for pocket version

Measures of the Ocean and Coastal Economy:

1. **GDP** (Gross Domestic Product): Value of goods and services that are produced.
2. **Employment**: # people employed by business establishments, including part-time/seasonal; does not include self-employed workers.
3. **Annual Wages**: Wages paid to employees.
4. **Business Establishments**: Individual places of business; single firm may have multiple.

The Ocean Economy¹

The ocean economy is comprised of six economic sectors that depend on the oceans and Great Lakes. (This is a subset of the Coastal Economy, shown to the right.) This annual time-series data is produced for 448 coastal counties, 30 coastal states, and the nation using data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Data are currently available for the years 2005 to 2009.

The Six Sectors in the Ocean Economy:

- Living Resources • Marine Transportation
- Ship and Boat Building • Marine Construction
- Offshore Mineral Resources • Tourism and Recreation

When to Use:

Use Ocean Economy statistics to describe the economic value of activities directly related to the use of ocean resources or access.

What You Need to Know:

(Most recent data available:
2010)

GDP	\$257.7 Billion
Employment	2.7 Million
Wages	\$101.8 Billion
Establishments	144,294

The Coastal Economy^{2,3}

Shore Adjacent Counties Summary Statistics

(2011): The Coastal Shoreline Counties are counties that have a coastline bordering the open ocean, or contain FEMA identified coastal high hazard areas in the Special Flood Hazard Area. American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico are included in this suite.

When to Use:

When discussing the economy and population that benefits directly or indirectly from activity in the coastal zone.

What You Need to Know:

GDP	\$6.6 Trillion
Employment	51 Million
Wages	\$2.8 Trillion
Establishments	3,736,206

¹ For more information see Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW):
<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/data/enow/index.html>

² For more information, see Spatial Trends in Coastal Socioeconomics (STICS): stics.noaa.gov

The Coastal Population³

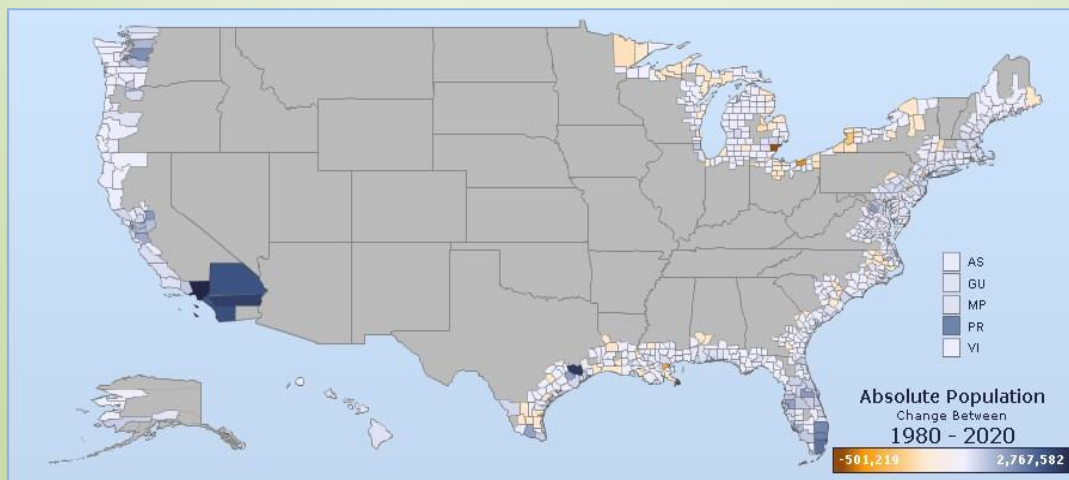
The coastal population consists of those living in Coastal Watershed Counties, which are those counties for which at least 15% of the county's total land area is located within a coastal watershed or a USGS coastal cataloging unit.

When to Use:

This geography is helpful in describing the population that directly impacts the coast by residing in coastal and estuarine drainage areas (i.e. daily decisions and habits may impact coastal health).

What You Need to Know:

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|----------------------------|--|
| 39% | Percent of the nation's total population that lived in coastal shoreline counties in 2010 (less than 10% of the total land area excluding Alaska). |
| 34.8 million | Increase in U.S. coastal shoreline county population from 1970 to 2010 (or a 39% increase). |
| 37 persons/mi ² | Expected increase in U.S. coastal shoreline county population from 2010- 2020 |



³ For more information, see State of the Coast: stateofthecoast.noaa.gov

Ocean Economy:

(Most recent data available: 2010)

GDP	\$257.7 Billion
Employment	2.7 Million Jobs
Wages	\$101.8 Billion
Establishments	144,294

Coastal Economy:

Coastal Shoreline Counties

(Most recent data available: 2011)

GDP	\$6.6 Trillion
Employment	51 Million
Wages	\$2.8 Trillion
Establishments	3,736,206